

JEAN ELIOT'S WEEKLY CHRONICLE OF CAPITAL SOCIETY

(Continued from Page Sixteen.)
to help her mother in welcoming the scores of callers. The several hundred guests included not only representatives of the various circles of official life, but unofficial folk and the younger diplomats of the corps, who had not been included among the guests on Monday.

The house which the Colbys have taken—it's the old Hitt house at the corner of K street and Fifteenth, which was remodeled by the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. H. Campbell Graef—is well suited to entertaining. The hall, which has a particularly graceful staircase, is faced with creamy stone, and there's a long and gracefully proportioned drawing room opening into an equally well proportioned dining room. The furnishings are tasteful and handsome, there are some splendid tapestries to give a note of distinction, and flowers and framed photographs provide the personal touch without which no house, however, handsome, can be a home.

Mrs. Colby seems to effect black a good deal. She was in black on the occasion of her first party, a graceful gown of broad crepe, with the sleeves and the upper part of the bodice fashioned of black chiffon and an impement of flesh colored chiffon and lace to finish the square-cut décolletage. At the Pan-American reception she wore black velvet, with straps of jet sequins to hold the flowing sequins. And when she received with the Secretary of Agriculture and Mrs. Meredith a week ago—her very first appearance in society after her husband was made Secretary of State—she had on a chic black and white foulard costume, with a big black hat trimmed in parade.

At her mother's first reception, Miss Colby, who is slight, dark, with fine eyes and rather a foreign air, wore a gray blue georgette frock, with black slippers and stockings to match the dress.

Mrs. Colby is a handsome woman, with a particularly gracious and charming manner, but she doesn't look very strong. Moreover, she's continually anxious about her second daughter, Malala, who has been ill for a long time and is not making satisfactory progress toward recovery. She's in a hospital in New York, and one or the other of her parents goes to see her every few days.

Prominent Peruvians at Dinner of Fetes.

Quite fittingly the French Ambassador—dean of the diplomatic corps—and Mme. Jussier were the first to entertain officially for the Secretary of State and Mrs. Colby. Their dinner on Thursday evening was followed on Friday by the dinner which the Ambassador of Peru and Mme. Peset had for them. This party was given at Hauscher's and a number of prominent Peruvians now resident in New York came down to attend the function. The decorations were especially lovely, so artistic and original and all worked out under the direction of charming little Mme. Peset.

On Wednesday evening Secretary and Mrs. Colby were the honor guests at a reception and dance given by the State Department Club, a jolly, informal festivity, which wound up with a miniature carnival, with bright colored balloons and Mardi Gras favors contributing color to the scene. The Assistant to the Secretary and Mrs. Carr received the guests—some 300 of 'em—and presented them to Secretary and Mrs. Colby. There was a musical program—songs by the Department of State quartet, with Prof. Fabian at piano, and several solos by Maj. Charles Trowbridge Titman. Then Mr. Colby spoke briefly telling of his pleasure in being present and meeting the members of the club. After that dancing was the order of the evening and the fun kept up until a late hour.

The British Ambassador and Lady Geddes have been almost as persistently feted as the Colbys. They were present, of course, at Mrs. Colby's reception, and they also attended the Pan American party. Then, on Thursday evening, Mrs. Marshall Field had a dinner for them, one of her "gold plate dinners"—i. e., parties for which her famous gold service is brought out—unless, of course, you guess.

Like Mrs. Colby, Lady Geddes made her very first appearance in Washington at Mrs. Meredith's reception, although she had received informally at the embassy the day before, Friday, which is traditionally "diplomatic day," and has been observed at the British embassy for years and pretty nearly everybody in town had called upon her. She was also at home this last Friday, and yesterday Mrs. DePree Crittenden gave a luncheon in her honor. The two ladies are old friends; indeed, Mrs. Crittenden and her daughter, Mrs. Swager Sherley, knew Lady Geddes when she was a girl, and were present at her marriage to Sir Auckland Geddes.

Mrs. Meredith, wife of the Secretary of Agriculture, will give a luncheon for her tomorrow. Lady Geddes, you know, is only to be here for a few weeks this time. She is going home in July to remain until that weather is over, and on her return in September will bring her children with her. They are a cosmopolitan crew, the Geddes kiddies. The eldest, Ross, who is twelve and a half years old, was born in Edinburgh. Alexander, nine and a half, and Peggy, seven and a half, the only girl, were born in Dublin, and five-year-old John in Montreal. The baby, David, is a little Londoner. He's an adorable chubby, blonde youngster, somewhat resembling his amazingly pretty sister. The three youngest are on a farm in Buckinghamshire with a nursery governess, and the two eldest boys are at school at Haddon Court, near London. They have their father's broad shoulders and lean, strongly marked features, and are, in fact, greatly like him.

What are Lady Geddes' activities? She has but two, really absorbing interests—her husband and her children. Not that she isn't a woman of wide sympathies and keenly interested in men, women and events, but during the active and eventful years of her married life her time and energy have been fully taken up in rearing five lusty and frolicsome children, and in keeping her husband going. Sir Auckland Geddes has been one of the busiest and most active men in the empire, and it has been a "man also job" to look after his health—doctors are proverbially hard on themselves—and to keep him fit and in fighting trim.

During the war not only was Lady Geddes her husband's right-hand man, but her house in London, styled "Blighly" to all of her fighting kind, and they were so many that it was a good deal of an achievement to keep up the family morale. One family of cousins gave nine sons to the service and three sons of her fighting kind were killed. There was also a cousin—a Ross—in the American army. And it must be remembered that two of Lady Geddes' children are war babies.

The aim of the lady is cultivated and widely read, and, while she doesn't admit that she's a musician, her friends say that she plays charmingly. She is fond of the outdoors, and, although not particularly a sports woman, excels at a good many outdoor games. She's no politician, admits that she has never made a speech in her life, and insists that she couldn't if her life depended upon it. As a matter of fact, the ambassador isn't a bit of a politician, and only became a member of Parliament when it was made necessary by his appointment to a cabinet post.

President Expected To Receive Geddes Soon.

Washington—that part of it that knows the rules of the game, and is inclined to regard them as the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not—is watching with deep interest to see whether the President is really going to receive Sir Auckland Geddes "in a very few days," as has been repeatedly stated in print. For there are a dozen others—both ambassadors and ministers, chiefs of missions—who are entitled to precedence over him, and it would not at all be according to Hoyle for the President to receive them in any other order than that in which they arrived and presented themselves to the State Department. Of course, it is recognized that the President does not play the game according to Hoyle—but diplomats are touchy mortals, where precedence is involved, and just what would happen if the rules were upset is a thing that no one tries to guess.

The Italian Ambassador, Baron Romano, and his charming wife, who seems to be universally popular, devoted most of the week to entertain-

ing or being entertained, despite the fact that the Baroness has been supplanted by Lady Geddes as the newest diplomatic hostess—just as Mrs. Colby has supplanted Mrs. Meredith as the newest Cabinet hostess. They had two dinners at the embassy, one on Sunday and the other on Tuesday. They were entertained by Mrs. Charles S. Brownell on Monday night, sharing honors with the Polish Minister and Princess Lubomirska; by Senator and Mrs. Charles B. Henderson on Wednesday night; by Mrs. F. H. Moran on Thursday night, and by Mrs. McKillan Gibson on Friday night, the Baroness also lunching out pretty nearly every day. And now they're taken their young daughter on that promised trip to St. Louis to visit some of her mother's relatives and old friends out there. They will come back East in a week or so, but expect to spend a few days in Philadelphia before returning to Washington on May twelfth.

Entertaining for the Minister of the Netherlands and Mme. Cremer has also been the order of the day—

for Washington believes in speeding the parting guest as well as in giving a hearty welcome to the newcomer. They will spend the summer abroad—returning, it is to be hoped, in the autumn—and are sailing on the Lapland on May 5. Ever so many Washingtonians are going over on that boat, by the way—Mr. and Mrs. Glat Blair, for instance, and William Phelps Eno and Mr. and Mrs. Sylvanus Stokes, Jr., and their baby daughter. They are to have a house in England for the summer, which they will make their headquarters, traveling occasionally on the Continent. Mrs. Stokes' mother, Mrs. Gibson, Fannestock, also expects to go abroad this summer, but she has not yet completed her plans. At any rate, she expects to remain in Washington until June.

Mr. Lefevre—J. E. Lefevre, the charge d'affaires of Panama, has had a cable from his brother, Ernest P. Lefevre, the President of Panama, telling about the dinner which he is to give tomorrow night at the executive mansion in honor of

General Pershing. The general, you know, is visiting Panama to inspect the fortifications of the Canal Zone. The company asked to meet him is a distinguished one and includes the members of his staff, the members of the cabinet of Panama, the American minister to Panama, Mr. Price, with the members of the

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